

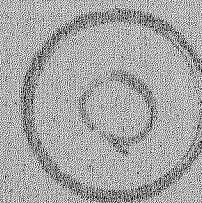
Educational (1899) Department.

ORDINARY MS.

G.O., No. 116

DATED 24.2.88

INDEXED.



6-b

[Despatch Abstract.]

Recording Pro: L & M Dept. m
the report of Mr. Parson on
Primary Schools in the Malabar
St.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Educational (1899) Department.

CURRENT No. 279

From

The Local and Municipal Department.

Order.

N. 116 of 24.2.99

Recorded

No.

358 L. Mis.

Dated

Received 16th February 1899.

Registered 17.2.99.

Enclosures

Spare copies

SUBJECT.

Dummy schools:

Communicating to the District Board of Malabar Mr. Parsons report on the _____ in that district and stating with remark that the services of a special officer for making further enquiries are not necessary.

7/2/99.
21.2.99.
P. 10
21/2/99

26
28/2/99.

Note. Please see linked file.
as

W
23.2.99

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.
	357 L		16-2-98
	863 L		20-6-98
	644 L		31-3-98

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Local and Municipal Department.

(Enclosure to G.O. No. 358 L.Mis., dated 18th December-1898 February 1899.)

From F.C. Parsons Esquire, I.C.S., on special duty, to the Secretary to Government, Public Department, dated 17th December 1898.

G.O. No. 1432, dated 23rd November 1898, Public, placing me on special duty in Malabar to enquire into the existence of dummy schools arose from the remarks of the President, District Board, in para. 27 of his budget report for 1898-99. In that paragraph, the President was dealing with result-grants payable from Local Funds. Such result grants are only paid to Hindu Schools. Result grants to Mappilla and Girls Schools are paid from Provincial Funds. When therefore the President, in para. 27 asserted the existence of dummy schools, he must have referred to Hindu Schools only.

3. I take a dummy school to mean either

(a) A school which has no real existence but which has a paper existence. By a paper existence I mean an existence in the returns of Educational Officers, or

(b) A school which earns only a paltry grant. The Board District proposes to refuse aid to all schools earning a grant of less than Rs. 50; so I take it that any grant of less than Rs. 50 is a paltry grant.

3. The following remarks to the end of para. 18 refer to Hindu nontheruma schools only.

4. I have visited all the 22 result schools in the Calicut Taluk and can confidently assert that they all have a real existence. They all have masters, pupils, school furniture, buildings &c. The existence of each one of them is well-known to the people of the neighbourhood. I have always cross examined the master and made enquiries about him and I am satisfied that in every school he is a genuine teacher. In most schools I examined the pupils. There are no grounds even for a suspicion that any of

these

these 22 result schools has no real existence.

5. The following shows the Provincial and Local Fund grants earned by and paid to each school in the Calicut Taluk during 1897-98:-

Serial No.	Grant earned				Grant Paid				Serial No.	Grant earned				Grant Paid			
	Provincial	Local	Fund	Total	Provincial	Local	Fund	Total		Provincial	Local	Fund	Total	Provincial	Local	Fund	Total
1	52-14	39-8	92-4	51-15	39-8	91-7			12	20-9	18-0	38-9	12-10	18-7	28-1		
2	13-2	66-0	79-2	10-12	52-6	63-2			13	1-5	23-12	25-1	1-5	23-12	25-1		
3	28-13	56-12	84-9	21-7	25-5	46-12			14	9-10	26-4	35-14	9-10	12-6	22-0		
4	10-8	39-12	50-4	6-6	39-12	46-2			15	11-0	18-0	29-0	10-4	10-12	21-0		
5	7-14	36-0	43-14	7-14	36-0	43-14			16	4-13	16-8	21-5	4-13	11-0	18-13		
6	9-10	49-0	58-10	9-10	32-12	42-6			17	6-2	22-0	28-2	3-12	11-13	18-9		
7	3-6	38-12	42-2	1-9	31-5	32-14			18	9-5	21-12	31-1	3-13	11-12	15-9		
8		44-0	44-0		32-1	32-1			19	1-5	18-0	19-5	1-5	11-3	12-8		
9	9-3	22-8	31-11	9-3	22-8	31-11			20	0-14	18-12	19-10	0-14	11-5	12-3		
10	3-8	42-8	46-0	3-8	27-9	31-1			21		14-0	14-0		10-10	10-10		
11	12-1	34-8	46-9	6-12	22-2	28-14			22		11-12	11-12		10-6	10-6		

6. If every school earning a total grant of less than Rs.50 is a dummy school, 17 out of the above 22 schools are dummy schools. Taking the total grant paid or the Local Fund grant earned 20 out of the 22 are dummy schools. In fact the great majority of the younger school-going children in the Taluk are being educated in dummy schools.

7. The existence of such dummy schools can be proved by statistics already available without any enquiry by me. As however the District Board has proposed to refuse aid to such schools it may prove useful for me to give the results of ^{my} any enquiries as to whether such schools are serving any useful purpose or not. The persons in the best position to give this information are the parents of the children and respectable persons living in the neighbourhood of the schools. I consulted

consulted such persons freely and I heard not one complaint as to the method of education or as to the management of any school or as to the method of apportioning grants. On the contrary a general desire was expressed to give grants to more schools without reducing those now given and thus to increase the number of dummy schools.

8. In the case of the 5th school in para.5, in the case of 3 schools newly brought on the list, and in the case of 5 schools which earned grants of less than Rs.50, I found that the school was kept going and the teacher boarded by an influential inhabitant whose own children attend the school. If these schools were serving no useful purpose the well-to-do among a peasantry who are fully alive to the value of education would not spend their money on them and would not send their children to them.

9. Including the first four schools in para.5 and substituting the 3 schools newly brought on the list for the 3 schools closed after the examination of 1898-99, I found an average of 27 pupils present in the 22 schools I visited. The teachers could not have had much notice of my visits, for I only made up my own mind as to where I was going the evening before the visit. I visited several schools during the mid-day meal. The attendance was therefore very good and shows that parents value these schools.

10. In the 17 dummy schools which earned a grant of less than Rs.50 in 1897-98, 402 boys and 47 girls passed examinations, qualifying them for result grants out of a total of 557 boys and 73 girls who passed in the whole taluk.

11. The above proves that these dummy schools do serve a useful purpose and that the money spent in aiding them is wisely spent.

12. In para.37 of his budget report for 1898-99, the President says of schools earning a Local Fund Grant of less than Rs.50, i.e. of 17.20 out of the 22 schools mentioned in para.5:- "They afford

afford a pretext for entertaining a larger staff of Inspecting School Masters than ^{would} otherwise be necessary." I found nothing to indicate that these schools were made to exist for the purpose of entertaining Inspecting School Masters.

13. In para.3 of its resolution, dated April 16th 1898, the District Board suggests that a grant of less than Rs.50 will not induce a master to keep his school open and does not further primary education. It may therefore prove useful if I state how 20 such ~~seke~~ school masters in Calicut do live keeping their schools open and working them efficiently.

14. All masters have the grant and collect presents from parents on feast days and special occasions. The eight masters referred to in para.8 are especially provided for by well-to-do patrons. Two masters practise astrology. One holds night-schools for grown ~~per~~ up persons. The master of the 3" school in the list collects regular fees from his pupils as in Local Fund Salary Schools. In another's family the females wash clothes. One master belongs to the same family as a District Munsiff. Five belong to families who own small landed property. One is very badly off and his family lives by cooly. All are poor men, most of them very poor.

15. In para.3 of its resolution, dated 16th April 1898, the District Board also says that a school earning a paltry grant, if it exists would continue to exist as an indigenous school independently of such a grant. In the Calicut Taluk I found several indigenous schools side by side with aided schools. This shows that the District Board's remark is true, but these indigenous schools are under no official control and are not conducted in accordance with the principles of primary education laid down by Government.

16. Calicut is one of ~~these~~ the backward taluks of the district in the matter of Hindu education. All the aided schools there have a real existence and in my opinion are doing good work. The same state of affairs probably exists in every other taluk. I now request orders as to whether I am to go on inspecting these Hindu schools. I think

think it will be labour in vain. There are some 400 such schools. If I am to continue inspecting them, I would suggest that the President be asked to tell me in what part of the district I am most likely to find Hindu dummy schools.

17. In G.O. No.1432, dated 28th November 1898, Public, and in the papers read ~~above~~ therein there is nothing about Mappilla schools. In the papers printed with G.O. No.363, Educational, dated 20th June 1898, a good deal is said about Mappilla bogus schools, see especially the last paragraph on page 17 and para.3 on page 20. Not only does the President assert the existence of bogus or dummy schools, but the Director of Public Instruction does so too, see page 10. There is thus no doubt about the existence of Mappilla dummy schools.

18. Pending orders for my guidance, I propose to inspect Mappilla Schools. I may thus be able to point out specific dummy schools to the higher educational authorities and inspecting these schools will in any case be a good thing.

Endorsement thereon by the Public Department, No.338, dated 3rd February 1899.

Transferred to the Local and Municipal Department.

(True Copy)

A. Edgington
For Secretary to Government.

CURRENT No. 279

PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Read the following paper:-

From F.C. Parsons Esquire, I.C.S., on special duty, dated 17th December 1899, reporting on dummy schools in the Malabar District.

ORDER No. 559 I.C.S., dated 16th February 1900.

The report from Mr. Parsons, transmitted with the enclosure read above, will be communicated to the District Board of Malabar with the remark that the existence of small result dummy schools in the Malabar District having been verified and their utility established, the Government does not consider that the services of a special officer are necessary for making further enquiries.

2. Until relieved from his special duty, Mr. Parsons is requested to continue his enquiries relating to dummy schools and to submit to Government in due course a full report containing the results of his enquiries.

(True Extract)

A. Edgington

For Secretary to Government.

The President, District Board, Malabar (with a copy of the report)

" Public Department (with copy in original to be returned).

" Educational Department (with a copy of the report.)

" Director of Public Instruction, do

Mr. F.C. Parsons, Esq.

1899
Dept.
Enclos. No. 1
To
C. No. 279

When given for copying _____
 When copied _____
 When examined _____
 When signed _____

189 .

READ AGAIN G.O., No _____
 189 . DATED _____

CURRENT No. _____

ENCLOSURES TO C. No. _____

ORDER OF GOVERNMENT. A A A A A A A

LETTER OF GOVERNMENT. _____

STATEMENT WITH DUTTO _____

PAPERS NOT FILED UP, BEING MEANT FOR DESPATCH
 IN ORIGINAL.

N.B.—
 A = Copy in full.
 B = Not to be copied.
 P = Copy abstract only.
 Q = Copy heading only.